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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/531,603	04/14/2005	Paulus Petrus Franciscus Maria Bruin	NL 021020	8229

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

ALMO, KHAREEM E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2816

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/15/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/531,603

Applicant(s)

BRUIN ET AL.

Examiner

Khareem E. Almo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed 11/4/2006 has been received and entered in the case.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 2 and 4 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hojabri (US 5744385).

With respect to claim 1, figure 6 of Hojabri disclose a voltage divider arrangement comprising a reference terminal (606), an input terminal (608) for receiving an input signal with respect to said reference terminal (606), an output terminal (606) for supplying an output signal with respect to said reference terminal (606), and a resistor arrangement (604) arranged on a substrate (610) and coupled between said input terminal (608) and said reference terminal (606), wherein a distributed compensation capacitance structure (602) for compensating the influence of a distributed parasitic capacitance is arranged between said resistor arrangement (604) and said substrate (610); wherein said distributed compensation capacitance structure is separated from said resistor arrangement and said substrate by respective insulation layers (600). (Note the abstract lines 5-7 states (6 and 7 respectively) have a well is formed having a conductivity type opposite to the conductivity type of the semiconductor substrate.)

With respect to claim 2, figure 6 discloses a voltage divider arrangement

according to claim 1, wherein said resistor arrangement has a meandering shape.

With respect to claim 4, figure 6 discloses a voltage divider arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said distributed compensation capacitance structure (602) comprises a conductor layer of a predetermined shape.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Der Zee in view of Bucksch.

With respect to claim 1, figures 2, 5, 6 and 7 of Van Der Zee disclose a voltage divider arrangement comprising a reference terminal (going into 1), an input terminal (going into 2) for receiving an input signal with respect to said reference terminal (going into 1), an output terminal (3) for supplying an output signal with respect to said reference terminal (going into 1), and a resistor arrangement (R1-RM+1) arranged on a substrate (SBSTR) and coupled between said input terminal (going into 2) and said reference terminal (going into 1),); wherein said distributed compensation capacitance structure is separated from said resistor arrangement and said substrate by respective insulation layers, but fails to disclose wherein a distributed compensation capacitance

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structure for compensating the influence of a distributed parasitic capacitance is arranged between said resistor arrangement (R1-RM+1) and said substrate (SBSTR). Figures 2 and 3 of Bucksch teaches the use of a layer compensation capacitance structure (4) for compensating the influence of a distributed parasitic capacitance is arranged between a resistor arrangement and a substrate. It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use the teaching of Bucksch in the structure of Van Der Zee for the purpose of frequency compensation.

With respect to claim 2, the above combination discloses a voltage divider arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said resistor arrangement has a meandering shape.

With respect to claim 3, the above combination discloses a voltage divider arrangement according to claim 2, wherein said resistor arrangement is made of polysilicon (see column 4 lines 5-10 of Van Der Zee).

With respect to claim 4, the above combination discloses a voltage divider arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said distributed compensation capacitance structure (4) comprises a conductor layer of a predetermined shape.

With respect to claim 5, the above combination (in figures 6 and 7 of Van Der Zee) disclose a voltage divider arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said predetermined shape is a triangular shape.

With respect to claim 7, the above combination discloses a voltage divider arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said distributed compensation capacitance

structure (4) is separated from said resistor arrangement and said substrate (SBSTR) by respective insulation layers.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 11/14/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, the suggestion /motivation to limit the stray capacitance comes from column 1 lines 45-60 and column 2 lines 10-21. Both references teach similar voltage dividers that use compensation capacitance structures. The alternative teaching of the structure being above or below the resistive chain is seen as being obvious to change with one reference in view of another reference to get the desired frequency compensation.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claim 6 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With respect to claim 6, the prior art of record fails to suggest or disclose the voltage divider arrangement wherein the width of said conductor layer in the horizontal direction is selected according to the equation $D_k = \frac{DR}{1 + kM + 1 - kCCMP \cdot CP}$, wherein CP denotes the parasitic capacitance per unit area of resistor, DR denotes the length of said resistor arrangement (20), k denotes an index of a segment of said transistor arrangement (20); M denotes the total number of segments of said transistor arrangement (20), $CCMP$ denotes the distributed compensation capacitance per unit area of resistor and D_k denotes said width of said conductor layer.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.


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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khareem E. Almo whose telephone number is (571) 272-5524. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


KEA
2/5/2007


Quan Tra
Primary Examiner